Appl. No. 09/832,587 Amdt. Dated April 30, 2004

Reply to Office action of December 31, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

pplicant

09/832,587

Confirmation No. :

1497

Filed

Siliva Allegro, et al. April 11, 2001

TC/AU

2644

Examiner:

Tony M. Jacobson

Docket No. Customer No. : 33497 116

MAY 0 7 2004

Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 (AMENDMENT "B")

Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the Office action dated December 31, 2003 (paper no. 6). The three month period for responding to the Office action expired on March 31, 2004. Applicant hereby petitions and requests a one (1) month extension of time to extend the response period from March 31, 2004 through April 30, 2004. By this amendment, thirty-four (34) total claims, which includes the multiple dependencies are pending in this application, three (3) of which are independent claims. A check in the amount of \$362 is enclosed to cover the \$252 excess claim fee and the \$110 extension fee.

Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below ommissioner for Patents, P.Q.

Robert F. Bodi

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

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01 FC:1251

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05/05/2004 MGEBREM1 00000136 160820 09832587

02 FC:1201

6.00 DA

252.00 OP